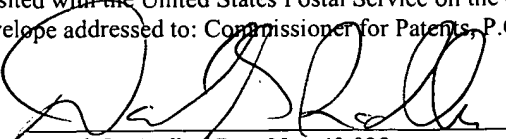


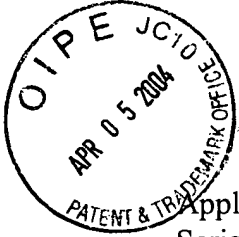
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date set forth below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date of Signature

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3/30/04


Daniel G. Radler, Reg. No. 43,028



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Carlo Finzer et al.
Serial No.: 10/797,372
Filed: March 10, 2004
Title: SELF-LOCKING SCREW CONNECTION
Art Unit: --
Examiner: --
Docket No. 460868.90215DIVII

Preliminary Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows: